

REMARKS

Claim 80 has been rejected by the Examiner. Claims 1, 3-14, 16-18, 20, 21, 23-25, 27-30, 33-35, 37-43, 55-59, 61-66, 68-72, 76-80, and 82-92 are pending in the application. The outstanding issues in the present Office Action are:

- Claim 80 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)
- Claim 81 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if written in independent form

I. General

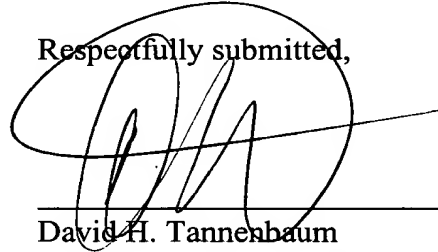
In response, claim 81 has been canceled. Applicants have amended independent claim 80 to include the limitation as substantially previously recited in claim 81.

New claims 86-92 have been presented for consideration. These claims do not add new matter to the application and are supported by the specification and drawing as originally filed. New claims 86-88 are directly or indirectly dependent from independent claim 84. New independent claim 89 is substantially similar to amended independent claim 80 except that claim 89 is a method claim, whereas claim 80 is a system claim. New claims 90-92 are directly or indirectly dependent from independent claim 82. Accordingly, Applicants submit that new claims 86-92 are allowable.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that this application is now in full condition for allowance, which action Applicants respectfully solicit. Applicants thank the Examiner for his time and request that the Examiner call the below listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining problems.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'DM', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval.

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Date: 7-19-00

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